Case 2759

Goniosoma conspersum Perty, December 1833 (currently *Mitobates conspersus*; Arachnida, Opiliones): proposed conservation of the specific name

Adriano B. Kury
Departamento de Zoologia, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, CCS bloco A, Ilha da Cidade Universidade, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, 21941, Brazil

Abstract. The purpose of this application is the conservation of the specific name of *Mitobates conspersus* (Perty, 1833), a Brazilian laniatorid harvestman, by the suppression of its unused senior synonym *Mitobates triangulus* Sundevall, April 1833.

1. In a footnote to his description of the new genus *Mitobates*, Sundevall (1833, p. 34) described briefly (without an illustration) the species *Mitobates triangulus* which is the type species by monotypy. The type specimens were probably deposited in the collection of B.W. Westermann, whom Sundevall had consulted. After Westermann's death in 1868 the collection was donated to the Zoologisk Museum, Copenhagen. Enquiries at Lund, Copenhagen and Stockholm Museums have yielded no positive result.

2. Perty (1833, p. 202) described *Goniosoma conspersum*, of which the type material is now deposited in the Zoological Museum of Berlin (specimens ZMB 943 a–c). The date of publication of Perty's paper is 13 December 1833, and that of Sundevall's is 24 April 1833.

3. Gervais (1844, pp. 108, 113) cited *Goniosoma conspersum* Perty, 1833 and *Mitobates triangulus* Sundevall, 1833 separately. Simon (1879, p. 234) mistakenly considered *M. conspersus* (Perty) to have date priority over *M. triangulus* Sundevall and listed the latter as a junior subjective synonym of the former. All subsequent authors have followed Simon (see, for example, Roewer, 1931; Mello-Leitão, 1932; Soares & Soares, 1949). A list of four representative references is held by the Commission Secretariat. *Mitobates triangulus* has not been cited since Gervais (1844) except as a synonym in check-lists. I have recently published (Kury, 1990) a paper concerning *Mitobates* Sundevall, 1833 with a redescription of the species *Mitobates conspersus* (Perty, 1833).

4. In view of the fact that *M. conspersus* has been widely used, its replacement by the subjective synonym *triangulus* which was published only a few months earlier and has been unused since 1844 is unwarranted.

5. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

(1) to use its plenary powers to suppress the name *triangulus* Sundevall, 1833, as published in the binomen *Mitobates triangulus*, for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy;

(2) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *conspersum* Perty, 1833, as published in the binomen *Goniosoma conspersum*;

(3) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology the name *triangulus* Sundevall, 1833, as published in the binomen *Mitobates triangulus* and as suppressed in (1) above.

Acknowledgements

I wish to thank Dr. H. Enghoff (Copenhagen) and Dr. T. Kronestedt (Stockholm) for information on their collections.

References

Gervais, P. 1844. Acères Phrynéides, Scorpionides, Solpugides, Phalangides et Acarides, Dicères épizoiques, Aphaniptères et Thysanoures. Pp. 94–131 *in* Walckenaer, M le Baron, *Insectes Aptères*, vol. 3. 476 pp. Roret, Paris.

Kury, A.B. 1990. Synonymic notes on *Mitobates* Sundevall, with redescription of the type species, *M. conspersus* (Perty) (Opiliones: Gonyleptidae: Mitobatinae). *Bulletin of the British Arachnological Society*, **8**(6): 194–200.

Mello-Leitão, C.F. de. 1932. Opiliões do Brasil. *Revista do Museu Paulista*, **17**(2): 1–505.

Perty, M. 1833 (December). *Delectus animalium articulatorum quae in itinere per Brasiliam annis 1817–1820... peracto collegerunt... Spix et de Martius...*, part 3. 125–244 pp., pls. 25–40. Fleischer, Monachii.

Roewer, C.F. 1931. Weitere Weberknechte V. (5. Ergänzung der Weberknechte der Erde, 1923). *Abhandlungen herausgegeben vom Naturwissenschaftlichen Verein zu Bremen*, **28**(2–3): 101–164.

Simon, E. 1879. Essai d'une classification des Opiliones Mecostethi. Remarques synonymiques et descriptions d'espèces nouvelles. *Annales de la Société Entomologique de Belgique*, **22**: 183–241.

Soares, B.A.M. & Soares, H.E.M. 1949. Monografia dos gêneros de opiliões neotrópicos II. *Arquivos de Zoologia do Estado de São Paulo*, **7**(2): 149–240.

Sundevall, C.J. 1833 (April). *Conspectus Arachnidum*. 39 pp. Londini Gothorum.